



Stars Sitting Service Ltd is a specialist recruitment and booking agency founded by a parent of a child with severe learning difficulties. We are unique because all of our sitters have skills and experience working with and supporting children with special needs at home or in mainstream facilities enabling inclusion.

We place sitters so their parents/carers can take a break. Sitters are available before/after school, evenings, weekends and school holidays throughout Birmingham and Solihull.

Sitters are fully vetted which includes face to face interviews, Enhanced Criminal Record Bureau Disclosure, at least two written references with regard to their child care experience, proof of identity and right to work in the UK. Sitters also meet the following minimum criteria;

- Currently be employed within an organisation working with children with special needs, either paid or voluntary work.
- Registered childminders, nannies or qualified nursery nurses with a minimum of 6 months experience of working with children with special needs within the last twelve months.
- Students who are studying to gain qualifications in the field of learning disabilities. For example trainee healthcare, social care and education professionals. All students will have undertaken a minimum amount of work experience with special needs children.

The following fees apply, minimum of 3 hours booking;

Booking fee	£ 10 per booking per day paid directly to Stars Sitting Service Ltd
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Parents pay the sitters direct at the following rates;

£ 7.50 per hour	Monday to Friday
£ 8.50 per hour	Weekends
£ 10 per hour	up to 2 additional siblings
£ 11.50 per hour	Bank holidays

We are compatible with Direct Payments, Individualised Budgets schemes, as well as self funding. There are discounts for block bookings.

Please contact Lee or Gloria to discuss your individual requirements. Informal enquiries welcome.

**Telephone: 0121 243 5670 or 07739 517374**

**E mail: [contacts@starsittingservice.co.uk](mailto:contacts@starsittingservice.co.uk)**



### Stars Sitting Service case study 1:

Mr & Mrs F both work full time. During school holidays their daughter who has special needs has a sitter to look after her whilst mum and dad go to work. Hours required 9am until 5.00pm Monday to Friday.

Mon-Fri booking fee of £ 10 per day = £ 50

9am to 5.00pm = 8 hours x 5 days = 40 hours

40 hours x sitter rate £ 7.50 = £ 300

**£ 300 plus £ 50 TOTAL COST = £ 350**

### COMPARE TO

Typical rates from other agencies start from £ 10.50 per hour plus VAT = £ 12.60. This excludes any booking fees which may be applicable.

**40 hours x agency rate £ 12.60 = £ 504**

### Stars Sitting Service case study 2:

Mr & Mrs C have not had a night out together as a couple in over 2 years. They would like to celebrate their up coming wedding anniversary with friends having a meal on a Saturday evening. They require a sitter from 7pm until 12 midnight.

Booking fee = £ 10

7pm to 12 midnight = 5 hours

5 hours x sitter rate £ 8.50 = £ 42.50

**£ 42.50 x £ 10 TOTAL COST = £ 52.50**

### COMPARE TO

Typical agency rates

**5 hours x £ 12.60 TOTAL COST = £ 63.00**

### ***Good idea! Buy time vouchers***

Ask your friends, family or colleagues to buy you some time to have a break from caring. They can buy some sitting hours you later redeem with your chosen sitter. Ideal gift for birthdays, celebrations, leaving present, special time of year such as Valentines Day, Christmas and New Year.